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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 11 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Chairmanship of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I have the honour to transmit herewith the document of the Committee of Senior Officials of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in other parts of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, adopted at its 12th meeting, from 8 to 10 June 1992.

I would be most grateful if you could kindly have the texts of the present letter and of the enclosed "Decisions of the Committee of Senior Officials" distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eduard KUKAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

1. The CSO met on 8-10 June 1992 to continue its examination of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and in other parts of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The participating States focused in particular on the continued deterioration of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and on arrangements for further decisions pertaining to the crisis as required by the statement of the CSO of 12 May 1992.

2. The CSO heard a moving description of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and a call to action by the Foreign Minister of that country, His Excellency Haris Silajdžic. His comments underscored the desperate humanitarian situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and documented the continuing aggression which is destroying the fabric of his nation.

3. This continuing aggression has led to the deepening diplomatic and physical isolation of Serbia and its leaders. United Nations Security Council resolution 757 (1992) is a dramatic example of the determination of the world community not to tolerate the continued disregard by Serbia and the JNA for CSCE commitments and basic human standards. The participating States welcomed the Security Council action as an important concrete ratification of the political message the CSCE has been seeking to impress upon the leaders of Serbia.

4. The participating States expressed their determination to abide fully by the provisions of resolution 757 (1992) and to implement carefully the sanctions which it contains. They recalled also the ongoing process of examination of Belgrade's role in international organizations now under way in the United Nations and agreed to follow closely its implications for the CSCE.

5. The participating States expressed their dismay at the continuing hindrance of humanitarian aid to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina. They called for the immediate facilitation of secure transport to areas of need. In particular, they stressed the importance of establishing a security zone in and around Sarajevo, including its airport, as envisaged in United Nations Security Council resolution 758 (1992), and called for support of the efforts undertaken by the participating States within the United Nations to secure such a zone.

6. They also drew attention to the human and environmental catastrophe which could result from continued shelling of the city of Tuzla, which is home to one of the largest chemical complexes in the Balkans. This plant contains large amounts of toxic and potentially hazardous chemicals. Fire or explosion could result in a serious threat to human health and to the environment.

7. The Committee of Senior Officials also decided on the following specific steps:

(a) In accordance with its decision of 12 May 1992, the CSO will decide on 29 June 1992 further action to be taken, in the light of the information provided by the EC about the situation on the ground and about progress at the EC Peace Conference. To facilitate this decision, the Chairman-in-Office, after consultations with delegations, has invited representatives of Austria, Canada, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Germany, Greece, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America to form a task force. This task force will commence its work by 22 June 1992 at the latest and will consider the assessment provided by the EC and the conclusions of the review to be conducted by the United Nations. The task force will present its recommendations for further action to the CSO by 29 June 1992, including those on the question of the participation of the delegation of Yugoslavia in the CSCE, particularly with a view to the arrangements for the forthcoming Helsinki Summit;

(b) The task force will also prepare recommendations, for consideration by the CSO at its meeting on 29 June 1992, on the role that further CSCE missions, of either short or long duration, might play in promoting peace, averting violence and restoring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in Kosovo, Vojvodina and Sanjak and in support of the efforts of the EC Peace Conference. To help prepare such a recommendation the CSO has decided to send an exploratory mission to the above regions within the next two weeks.